

## NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENTLEY,  
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BELL'S GARDENS, Broadway.—FANTASY AND MARGUERITE.

WALLACK'S THEATRE, Broadway.—BOB BUCKER FOR A HUSBAND.

WINTER GARDEN, Broadway.—LIONEL LINCOLN.

LAURA KEENE'S THEATRE, Broadway.—JOHN L. LEWIS.

NEW BOWERY THEATRE, Bowery.—JACK AND THE BEAN.

GERMAN OPERA HOUSE, Broadway.—FRIEDRICH.

BARNUM'S AMERICAN MUSEUM, Broadway.—MILTON L. BARNUM.

BRYANT'S MINSTER, Broadway.—MILTON L. BARNUM.

WOOD'S MINSTER, Broadway.—MILTON L. BARNUM.

BROADWAY MENAGERIE, Broadway.—LIVING WILD ANIMALS.

AMERICAN MUSIC HALL, No. 44 Broadway.—BARNUM'S MINSTER.

PARISIAN CARNET OF WONDERS, 603 Broadway.—MILTON L. BARNUM.

HOOVER'S OPERA HOUSE, Broadway.—MILTON L. BARNUM.

New York, Thursday, January 8, 1863.

NOTICE TO PAPER MANUFACTURERS.

Twenty thousand reams of good paper wanted. See

31st. Apply at the Herald office.

THE SITUATION.

The last accounts from Murfreesboro, up to the

6th inst., represent the rebel army as totally de-

moralized. Their rear guard was attacked on

Sunday night by General Stanley's cavalry, who

killed thirty of them before they succeeded in re-

treating. The loss of the enemy is set down by

rebel prisoners at from twelve to fifteen thousand.

The news from other rebel sources is, in effect,

that they have taken four thousand prisoners, and

twenty-six guns.

Jeff Davis has returned to Richmond, where he

delivered a bitter and violent speech against the

federal government and its officers, denouncing

as guilty of the most enormous crimes.

It was reported that General Bragg was en route

to Chattanooga. The expedition of General Carter,

which effected such splendid results on the Eastern

Tennessee Railroad, reached Manchester, Ky.,

on Tuesday. It left London, Ky., on the

21st ult. It comprised one thousand cavalry.

The results of this expedition may be

summed up as follows:—The destruction

of two important bridges, the killing, wound-

ing and capturing of five hundred and fifty rebels,

the taking of seven hundred stand of arms, and a

large amount of flour, salt and other rebel stores.

A locomotive and two cars were also destroyed.

The train was accompanied by the loss of only

ten men.

The history of the recent battles at Vicksburg,

which we give to-day, proves them to have been

of the most desperate character. The rebels had con-

centrated 65,000 men there, while their intrench-

ments extended back six miles from the city. This

immense force was hurled upon Gen. Sherman's

army and compelled him to fall back upon his first

line of defence. He had fought his way to

within two miles of the city when the overwhelm-

ing force of the enemy came down upon him. The

fighting on Sunday is represented as desperate in

the extreme. Batteries were taken and retaken.

Whole regiments and brigades fought hand to

hand over the guns for possession of the defence.

The last accounts being the news up to Tuesday

the 30th, when there was some fighting. The loss

on our side is estimated at from four to five thou-

sand. It appears that General Sherman was not

reinforced by General Grant, who was still at

Holly Springs, and that Joe Johnson was in com-

mand of the rebels.

The rebel accounts of the affair are to the same

date as ours, and we give them to-day. A fine

map of the Mississippi and Yazoo rivers, in the vi-

cinity of the conflict, will be found on another

page.

We learn from Wheeling, Va., that heavy firing

was heard near New Creek on Saturday last,

which proved to be caused by an attack of the

rebels on our forces under Colonel Washburn,

at Moorefield, and that fighting was going on

during Saturday and Sunday.

We had a small force stationed at Petersburg,

north of Moorefield. This force was sent to the

place, and the baggage train came by way of a

mountain road, and reached New Creek on Sunday.

On Saturday night Colonel Mulligan, at the head

of his brigade, left New Creek for Moorefield,

reaching that place on Sunday evening. It was

reported that our forces had driven the rebels four

miles, and were still pursuing them. The rebels

are commanded by Colonels Imboden and Jenkins.

Everything was quiet in the Army of the Potomac

marched was two hundred miles, our troops mean-

while subsisting entirely upon the country.

The Message of Governor Seymour to the New

York Legislature, which we publish in full to-day,

recommends a vigorous prosecution of the war, to

the end that the constitution and the laws may be

vindicated, and the integrity of the Union restored

upon honest and national principles.

CONGRESS.

In the Senate yesterday correspondence and

reports concerning the accident to the steam bat-

tery People were received from the Secretary of

the Navy. The Military Committee made a report

regarding the sword of honor belonging to the

late rebel General Teague. The committee re-

commended that one of the swords be bestowed

upon General Butler, another deposited in the

library of the Military Academy at West Point,

and the third be preserved in the Patent Office as

a trophy of the rebellion. The bill relating to the

bounties of volunteers in certain cases was passed.

A bill to reimburse Minnesota for expenditures in-

ferred in suppressing Indian hostilities was

referred to the Military Committee. A memorial

from the New York Chamber of Commerce in favor

of the enlargement of the New York and Illinois

canals so as to make them available for military

purposes was presented. The resolution

regarding State prisoners was then taken up, and

Mr. Field, of New Jersey, made a speech defending

the policy of suspending the writ of habeas corpus.

The bill empowering the President to issue

letters of marque was referred to the Naval Com-

mittee. The bill for the relief of the officers of the

army who are absent from their duties over

thirty days was passed. A bill was introduced re-

pealing so much of the act establishing the grade of

lieutenant in the navy as authorizes the appoint-

ment of rear admirals and commodores on the re-

tired list. Referred to the Naval Committee. Mr.

Sumner offered a resolution directing the Post-

master General to furnish to the Senate any infor-

mation in his possession explaining the damage

to the mails between Washington and New

York, and showing what can be done for the re-

moval of the evil. A resolution was adopted in-

structing the Committee on Military Affairs to in-

quire into the expediency of providing a suitable

location for and establishing a Soldiers' Home for

destitute and disabled soldiers honorably dis-

charged from the service of the United States.

After an executive session the Senate adjourned.

In the House of Representatives a resolution

denouncing Gen. Grant for leading an order expel-

ling the Jews from his department was laid on the

table by a vote of fifty-six against fifty-three.

A resolution of thanks to Gen. Butler for his en-

ergetic, able and humane administration of affairs in

the Department of the Gulf was offered. A mo-

tion to lay it on the table was negatived—27 against

77. The resolution was then laid aside. Bills to

increase the efficiency of the Marine corps, and

authorizing accounting officers to make transfers

of balances in certain cases were referred. The

debate on the Bankrupt bill was then resumed, and

several members spoke in favor of the measure.

As a test of the sense of the House on the subject

a motion was made to lay the bill on the table,

which was rejected by vote of fifty-nine years

against sixty-six yeas. The further consideration

of the bill was then postponed till Thursday week,

and the House adjourned.

THE LEGISLATURE.

In the State Senate at Albany yesterday, the

message of Governor Seymour was presented and

read. It is published in full in our columns this

morning. A resolution to print twenty thousand

extra copies of the message was referred. Notices

were given of several bills of minor importance,

heretofore to be introduced. Notice was also given

of one to provide for the election of two additional

Supreme Court Judges in the First District. A

committee of three was appointed to investigate

certain alleged frauds in the passage or engrossing

of the Militia bill of last year. The papers in re-

ference to the Seneca Falls Railroad were referred

to a special committee, and the Senate then

adjourned. The Assembly met and had four more

bills for Speaker, with the same result as on the

previous day, there being sixty-three yeas cast

each time for Mr. Dean, the democratic candi-

date, and the same number for Mr. Sherwood, re-

publican. The Assembly then adjourned.

MISCELLANEOUS NEWS.

By the arrival of the steamship New York, from

Southampton, and the mails of the Anglo-Saxon,

from Portland, yesterday morning, we received

our European files to December 24. The papers

contain some very interesting details of the sum-

mary of the news of the City of Washington, tele-

graphed from Newfountain, which was published

in the Herald last Tuesday morning. The compila-

tion, which is given elsewhere, includes a letter

from the rebel officer, Matthew F. Maury, to the

London Times on the subject of the war and in-

dustrial resources of the rebels, as well as a letter

Highly Important State Paper—Message

of Governor Seymour.

We publish to-day the message of Governor

Seymour, delivered yesterday, to the Senate

at Albany. It is lengthy, but the tremen-

dous importance of the topics which it em-

braces justifies any length of discussion that

will throw light upon the still unsolved and

dark problem which agitates the heart and be-

wilders the brain of the nation. One-fourth of

the message is occupied with the affairs of the

State. The remainder is devoted to our na-

tional affairs, and is an elaborate argument

against the illegal and unconstitutional pro-

ceedings of the present administration.

That portion which touches upon State mat-

ters shows how prosperous has been the Empire

State during the last year, notwithstanding a

tremendous war, in which it has borne its

part. In the treasury, October 1, 1862, there was a balance to the credit

of the State of five millions and three

quarters. The gross receipts from tolls for the

past season of navigation amounted to upwards

of five millions of dollars. "Our vast internal

and foreign commerce has assumed proportions

far beyond that of any former period. But for

the overwhelming, gloomy cloud of war, and

its heavy drafts upon the blood and treasure of

our citizens, there could not be found four mil-

lions of people in the enjoyment of greater hap-

piness and prosperity."

The message, in its national bearings, is one

of the most important ever issued by any State

Governor of this republic. Mr. Seymour holds

that the constitution of the United States and

the constitution of the State of New York are

equally sacred, and that both are now imper-

iled; that while our soldiers are risking their

lives to uphold the constitution and restore the

Union we owe it to them that they shall not

find, when they return to the duties of civil life,

that "the securities of their persons, the sanctity

of their homes or the protection of their prop-

erty have been lost by us while they were

battling for the national integrity in a distant

field of duty." There is another point of vital

importance touched upon by the Governor, and

that is the inequality of the present draft-

ing system, which is alike at variance with justice

and the organic law. More than two hundred

thousand men have gone from this State to fight

for the national cause; but numerous officials

and other classes are exempted without the

payment of an equivalent, while classes who

ought to have been exempted have had to bear

the brunt and hardships of war.

With great propriety Mr. Seymour ob-

serves:—"Not only is the national life at stake, but

every personal, every family, every sacred inter-

est involved. We must grapple with the great

questions of the day. We must confront the

dangers of our position. The truths of our

financial and military situation must not be

kept back. There must be no attempt to put

down the full expression of public opinion. It

must be known and heeded to enable govern-

ment to manage public affairs with success.

There is a yearning desire among our people

to learn their actual condition. They demand

free discussion!" And Mr. Seymour discusses

freely the whole subject. He begins at the be-

ginning, and shows that there are now no more

national causes of discord in the country than

there ever were, but that in the last fifteen

years two sectional parties have sprung up—

one in the extreme Northern section of the At-

lantic coast, and the other in the extreme

Southern section. And these have made negro

slavery the occasion of war, in the face of the

constitution, and contrary to the wishes and

ideas of the people of the Middle and Western

States. "We are," says Mr. Seymour, "to look

for the causes of this war in a pervading dis-

regard of the obligations of laws and constitu-

tions; in cheapness for constitutional au-

thorities, and above all, in the local prejudices

which have grown up in two portions of the

Atlantic States—the two extremes of our

country—whose remote positions have made

them less well informed, and whose interests

have made them less considerate with regard

to the condition and character of our whole

people, than those living in the great Central

and Western sections of our Union." Mr. Sey-

mour is of opinion that both extremes must

be put down before the Union is restored; and

in this he is entirely right. The cause which

led to the war have hitherto rendered it un-

successful. Mr. Seymour very forcibly observes:

—"The legislative, executive and judicial de-

partments are co-ordinate. It is equally trea-

sonable to resist the rightful authority of either.

To overthrow the power of either department

is revolution. Legislative right, executive